

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 03145 280749 Z

12

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
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AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, PL, AU

SUBJECT: KREISKY VISIT

VIENNA ALSO FOR EAST- WEST TRADE CENTER

PASS COMMERCE FOR BEWT

1. SUMMARY: AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR KREISKY ENDED A THREE-DAY VISIT TO POLAND JUNE 26. JUDGING FROM THE SURPRISINGLY EXTENSIVE COMMENTS ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE AND THE CHANCELLOR'S OPTIMISTIC REMARKS ABOUT A "NEW EPOCH" IN BILATERAL RELATIONS, THE VISIT MAY HAVE BEEN THE BASIS FOR A SIGNIFICANT STRENGTHENING OF POLISH- AUSTRIAN ECONOMIC TIES.
END SUMMARY

2. AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR KREISKY LEFT POLAND JUNE 26
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PAGE 02 WARSAW 03145 280749 Z

AFTER A THREE- DAY OFFICIAL VISIT WHICH INCLUDED TALKS WITH PREMIER JAROSZEWICZ AND A MEETING WITH FIRST SECRETARY GIEREK. KREISKY WAS ACCOMPANIED BY A LARGE ENTOURAGE INCLUDING SEVERAL BUSINESSMEN, AND HIS TALKS-- AS HE NOTED IN A PRESS INTERVIEW BEFORE DEPARTURE-- WERE CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO ECONOMIC ISSUES.

3. THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE (ASSUME DEPARTMENT HAS TEXT) WHICH APPEARED IN TRYBUAN LUDU JUNE 27 DISCUSSED INTERNATIONAL ISSUES AND BILATERAL ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL RELATIONS. THE INTERNATIONAL SECTION HELD NO SURPRISES, BUT THE DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC MATTERS, WHICH CONTAINED REFERENCES TO THE POSSIBILITY OF WIDER COOPERATION IN TRADE, INVESTMENT, JOINT UNDERTAKING AND PRODUCTION FOR THIRD COUNTRY MARKETS, WAS MORE DETAILED AND EXTENSIVE THAN MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED. WE NOTE WITH INTEREST REFERENCES TO THE POSSIBILITY OF POLISH ENTERPRISES HANDLING BUILDING PROJECTS IN AUSTRIA (AS THEY HAVE DONE IN THE PAST IN THE FRG). THE COMMUNIQUE SECTIONS ON CULTURAL COOPERATION WERE UNREMARKABLE EXCEPT, PERHAPS, FOR THE REFERENCE TO THE " USEFULNESS" OF A VERIFICATION OF SCHOOL BOOKS FOR " OBJECTIVITY IN THE POLISH- WEST GERMAN COMMISSION HAS BEEN WORKING ON SUCH A PROJECT FOR SOME MONTHS.)

4. CHANCELLOR KREISKY HAD SOME VERY POSITIVE COMMENTS TO MAKE ABOUT HIS VISIT IN AN INTERVIEW FO ZYCIE WARSZAWY. HE SAID TWICE, ACCORDING TO ZYCIE, THAT A " NEW EPOCH" WAS OPENING IN POLISH- AUSTRIAN RELATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN THE ECONOMIC AREA, WHERE RELATIONS WOULD " GO FAR BEYOND THE NORMAL EXCHANGE OF GOODS., HE ALSO SAID THAT IF QUESTIONS OF PRICES, CREDITS AND TRADE CONDITIONS COULD BE SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED, THE TWO SIDES PLANNED " LARGE COMMON INVESTMENTS." HIS TALKS IN WARSAW HAD BEEN DEVOTED TO ECONOMIC ISSUES, HE ADDED, BECAUSE " BETWEEN POLAND AND AUSTRIA THERE ARE NO UNRESOLVED POLITICAL PROBLEMS.,

5. COMMENT: THE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR TELLS US THAT THE POLES INITIALLY HAD PROPOSED A COMMUNIQUE DRAFT CONTAINING EXTENSIVE FORMULATIONS ON A NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, INCLUDING CSCE AND MBFR. THE AUSTRIAN SIDE HAD FELT THIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 WARSAW 03145 280749 Z

IN APPROPRIATE, GIVEN THE MODEST ROLE OF BOTH COUNTRIES IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE, ABOUT A THIRD OF WHICH IS DEVOTED TO INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, SEEMS ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE.

6. JUST HOW MUCH SUBSTANCE LIES BEHIND THE SWEEPING COMMUNIQUE REMARKS ON ECONOMIC RELATIONS IS DIFFICULT TO

DETERMINE-- ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOTED IN THE PAST THAT POLISH COMMUNIQUE TEND TO CONTAIN MORE OPTIMISTIC LANGUAGE ON THIS TOPIC THAN THE ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS MAY HAVE JUSTIFIED. STILL, KREISKY'S TALK OF A "NEW EPOCH" IN POLISH- AUSTRIAN RELATIONS, AND THE 40 PERCENT INCREASE REPORTED BY THE POLES IN TRADE TURNOVER WITH AUSTRIA IN 1972, INDICATE THAT THERE MAY BE MORE SUBSTANCE THAN USUAL IN THE COMMUNIQUE FORECASTS OF A ROSY FUTURE FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION.
DAVIES

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